

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication in the Notice of Allowance dated May 19, 2005 that claims 1-8 are allowed. In the instant Preliminary Amendment filed with RCE, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 7 to differently describe embodiments of the disclosure of the instant application. Accordingly, claims 1-8 remain pending in this application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and a notice of such is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite the prosecution.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account

50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION
OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP

Dated: August 15, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul A. Fournier", is written over a horizontal line.

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